

Global Fungal Infection Forum 4



Developing a coalition roadmap for integration of fungal disease pathways and AMR solutions into health systems in Latin America

The meeting will be a mix of plenary talks, panel discussions and facilitated breakout sessions. It will also include a press conference with a select number of experts. Almost all talks and discussions will be in Spanish with simultaneous translation.

Final Agenda

8:00 – 9:00 Registration

Day 1 – September 3rd

1. Opening remarks

Chair Juan Luis Rodriguez Tudela (GAFFI)

9:00 Welcome and meeting introduction and objectives (David Denning)

9:10 Introduction from PAHO

9:20 Introduction from CDC Tom Chiller

Setting the scene

9:30 GAFFI's mission and opportunities for reducing morbidity and mortality -Juan Luis Rodriguez Tudela

9:50 Scale of the fungal disease problem in Latin America in AIDS, cancer, after TB, asthma, endemic fungal infections, NTFDs (skin and keratitis) - Arnaldo Colombo (Brazil)

10:10 The Diagnostic Laboratory Hub example - Eduardo Arathoon (Guatemala)

10:30 Break

2. Fungal diagnostics

Chair Jeannete Zurita (Ecuador)

11:00 Fungal diagnostics - the easy, the 'standard' and the complex - Guillermo Garcia Efron (Argentina)

11:25 The work of the Central Laboratory of Public Health of Paraguay in Mycology - Lizzie Carolina Aquino, Paraguay

11:35 Microbiology laboratory landscaping in Latin America – who can do what? - Agustina Forastiero, PAHO consultant

11:55 The affordable mycology laboratory - Marina Macedo-Viñas (Uruguay)

3. Buzz group session (Fungal diagnostics)

12:15 Split into 3 groups to discuss models of diagnostic testing:

a) Near patient testing (POC)

b) Public health reference laboratory testing

c) Specialist, referral hospital testing

13:00 Summary from each group and panel discussion - “Best model(s) of delivering fungal diagnostics”

Jeannete Zurita, Gladys Estigarribia, Marina Macedo-Viñas, Eduardo Arathoon

13:30 Lunch Break

4. Patient complexity – examples

Chair Flavio Queiroz Telles (Brazil)

14:30 Cryptococcosis/Histoplasmosis screening – 2 examples - Dr. Eduardo Ticona (Peru)

14:55 Managing ‘smear negative TB’ – 2 examples - Ana Belén Araúz (Panama)
Discussion

5. Supporting capacity development

Chair – Giovanni Ravasi (PAHO)

15:20 Online resources – dissemination and motivation - Juan Luis Rodriguez Tudela

15:40 Advanced focused education - Masters courses in Medical Mycology, Laboratory Management, Epidemiology and Histopathology, courses and workshops - Eduardo Alvarez-Duarte (Chile)

16:05 Overview of WHO technical guidance on fungal infections in persons with HIV - Nathan Ford (WHO, Geneva)

16:25 National Guidelines development - Flavio Queiroz Telles

16:45 Panel discussion – Education and guidelines for country or the region?

Giovanni Ravasi, Juan Luis Rodriguez Tudela, Nathan Ford, Eduardo Alvarez-Duarte, Flavio Queiroz Telles, Luis Ostrovsky Zeichner (Houston).

17:30 Close

18:00 Welcome cocktails

Day 2 – September 4th

6. Problem fungal diseases

Chair Ricardo Rabagliati

8:30 Serious endemic fungal infections in Latin America - Fernando Riera (Argentina)

8:50 Fungal complications in AIDS - Jose Vidal (Brazil)

9:10 Fungal complications of cancer and critical care - Jorge Cortes (Colombia)

9:30 Pulmonary fungal infections – ‘smear negative TB’ and fungal asthma – Arnaldo Colombo (Brazil)

9:50 Panel discussion on “What can we do better?”

Ricardo Rabagliati, Fernando Riera, Jose Vidal, Jorge Cortes, Arnaldo Colombo,

10:30 Break

7. Antifungal therapy and resistance

Chair Gladys Estigarribia

11:00 How good are our current antifungal drugs - Gloria Celeste Aguilar Barreto (Paraguay)

11:20 Scale of the antifungal resistance problem in Latin America - Jeannete Zurita (Ecuador)

11:50 Fungal diagnostics and antimicrobial stewardship - Dora Corzo-Leon (Mexico)

12:10 WHO GLASS program for antifungal resistance (Nienke Bruinsma, PAHO)

12:30 Digital connectivity of Laboratory Information Management Systems -
Agustina Forastiero

12:45 Panel discussion on antifungal resistance – “minimization, detection,
surveillance”

Gladys Estigarribia, Gloria Celeste Aguilar Barreto, Jeannete Zurita, Dora Corzo-
Leon

13:15 Lunch Break

Parallel sessions

8a. Antifungal resistance and WHO GLASS

Chair Nienke Bruinsma

14:15 Introduction to the GLASS Early implementation protocol for inclusion of
Candida spp (Nienke Bruinsma, PAHO)

14:55 Implementation process of the protocol in Latin America; national
coordination (Agustina Forastiero)

15:15 (External) Quality Assurance of Species Identification and AFST &
Challenges (Cristina Canteros, Argentina)

15:30 Data management, Information systems & Analysis (Agustina Forastiero)

15:45 Break

16:15 Country examples of national fungal AMR surveillance

- Peru – Flor Urcia,
- Argentina - Cristina Canteros
- Venezuela – Maribel Dolande

16:45 Discussion of country participation in the early implementation -
Moderator Tom Chiller, CDC, Atlanta

17:00 Conclusions, Products and Next steps

8b. Imaging and data connectivity

Chair Luis Cuellar

14:15 The role of imaging – Dr Miguel Trelles (Peru)

14: 50 The potential for artificial intelligence radiology reporting – Alex Risman,
Chicago

15:15 Digital radiology and remote reporting opportunities - Dr Miguel Trelles
Discussion

8b. Possible solutions for specific problems – breakout sessions:

15:40 Group 1 - Screening for cryptococcal, histoplasma and other infections in AIDS
Matilde Roman & Roxana Salamanca

15:40 Group 2 - TB services, fungal antibody testing and changing clinical and
diagnostic practice

Jose Periera & Julio Garay

16:30 Break

17:00 Feedback from sessions.

17:30 Close

Day 3 – September 5th

9. Health economics (110 mins)

Chair – Donald Cole, Toronto

8:30 Can private healthcare support healthcare systems improvement in Latin America? - Carlos Arturo Alvarez (Colombia)

8:50 PAHO procurement on behalf of countries - PAHO

9:05 Funding fungal diagnostic tests and antifungal drugs by country – how it does and does not work – focus on LMICs (10 min summaries):

4 questions – “Which diagnostic tests are available, who pays for them, which drugs are available and who pays for them?”

- Nicaragua – Alberto Montoya Perez
- Cuba - Mayda Perurena
- Dominican Republic - Luis Gabriel Caminero Rodriguez
- Bolivia - Roxana Salamanca
- Honduras - Jose Sanchez
- Peru – Pablo Campos

10:30 Quick coffee break

Parallel sessions

10:45

10a. Group A: Chairs: Beatriz Bustamante & Marlen Arce Villalobos

Agreeing a blueprint for improved diagnostics

- a) Tests in local hospitals and clinics
- b) Tests in referral centres and university hospitals
- c) Diagnostic reference centres (best locations, portfolio of specialized tests and additional functions)
- d) LIMS, fungal disease and antifungal surveillance

10b. Group B: Chairs: Donald Cole & Hibeb Silvestre Tuch

Funding for improved care

- a) Diagnostic costs
- b) Antifungal drug costs and access (licensing needs, inclusion in HIV/TB/NTD donor contributions/universal health coverage, inclusion in country guidelines)
- b) Improving infrastructure
- c) Human capacity development

12:30 Feedback from sessions and from each country.

13. 15 The way forward

Chairs: Giovanni Ravasi and Juan Luis Rodriguez Tudela

- Report(s) of the meeting
- Potential donor contributions, especially capacity training and direct education
- Regional collaborations

13:30 Lunch break and close